



11/4/04

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 955 (Brown)

SB 955 would exempt property which included a methane digester and a methane digester electric generating system from property taxes.

- Brown 1 (3 amends) was adopted [no RC].
- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 955, as amended by the Senate [RC 752: 27 yes, 10 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 144 (Birkholz)

SB 144 require the board of a school district, local act school district, or intermediate school district, or the board of directors of a public school academy, to ensure that the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was offered each school day to students in the public schools the board operated.

- SB 144 passed [RC 741: 36 yes, 0 no].

SB 231 (Hammerstrom)

SB 1344 (Hammerstrom)

SB 231 would prohibit a minor placed in a child care institution from being placed or kept in seclusion.

- SB 231 passed [RC 749: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1344 would: 1) prohibit the use of mechanical and chemical restraint by child care institutions; but 2) allow the use of personal restraint and seclusion to ensure the safety of a minor or others in an emergency situation.

- Hammerstrom 1 (4 amends) was adopted [no RC]. Clarifying language on the use of restraints.
- SB 1344 passed [RC 750: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 978 (Brown)

SB 978 would allow local taxing units to continue to receive a small fee for processing tax bills.

- SB 978 passed [RC 740: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1149 (Garcia)

SB 1149 would create the "Armed Forces Commemoration Act" to recognize the men and women who served in the United States armed forces, specifically the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marines, the U.S. Air Force, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The flags of each branch would have to be flown over the State Capitol building in Lansing on the date of each branch's founding.

- SB 1149 passed [RC 751: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1150 (Hardiman)

SB 1150 would delete the current requirement that a health maintenance contract include basic health services, but specify that the contract would have to include "preventive health care services." The bill increases the maximum allowable out-of-pocket costs from \$3,000 for a single person and \$6,000 for a family to \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Support: MI Assn. of Health Plans, MAHP, HAP, Physicians Health Plan, Alliance Health, Priority Health, Health Plus, America's Health Insurance Plans, National Federation of Independent Businesses, MI Nurses Assn.

Oppose: UAW, SEIU – This shifts health care costs to the employee.

- JACOBS 1 (4 amends) was defeated [RC 737: 18 yes, 19 no (GOP)]. This would have made health care more affordable by helping families pay out-of-pocket expenses.
- SB 1150 passed [RC 738: 26 yes, 11 no].

SB 1181 (Birkholz)

SB 1181 would provide that each submerged log removal permit would expire on January 1, 2013. The bill also would require an applicant to notify the Department of Environmental Quality of the date on which the Federal government issued its approval for the permit. Currently, the Department may not issue a permit to remove submerged logs from Great Lakes bottomlands if the permit would be effective beyond December 31, 2006. Also, the term of a permit may not be more than five years. The bill would delete those provisions.

- SB 1181 passed [RC 747: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1329 (Allen)

SB 1329 would allow the operation of a snowmobile on the right-of-way of a limited access highway if 1) the right-of-way were a snowmobile trail designated by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in its comprehensive plan for a statewide recreational and snowmobile trails system; and 2) the right-of-way were approved by both the DNR and the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). A snowmobile could be operated on the right-of-way only in the manner provided in the trails system plan and within the width of the designated trail. Currently, snowmobiles may be operated on the right-of-way of a public highway that is not a limited access highway.

- SB 1329 passed [RC 739: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1366 (Cropsey)

SB 1366 would remove the requirement that a person qualified for admission to the State Bar be a resident of one of the states or territories or the District of Columbia.

- SB 1366 passed [RC 742: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1432 (Patterson)

SB 1432 would allow two or more municipalities to establish a watershed alliance for the purpose of studying problems and planning and implementing activities designed to address surface water quality or water flow issues of mutual concern.

- SB 1432 passed [RC 748: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1440 (Bishop)

SB 1441 (BERNERO)

SB 1442 (SCHAUER)

SB 1444 (Cropsey)

SB 1440 would require the family division of circuit court (family court) to conduct an initial foster care review hearing within 182 days after removal of a child from his or her home, rather than within 91 days after entry of a court order regarding the child's foster care placement, in a case involving neglect or abandonment.

- SB 1440 passed [RC 743: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1441 would require the family division of circuit court (family court) to conduct a review hearing at least every 182 days for a child remaining in foster care beyond the first year following the termination of parental rights to the child. The bill also would require the family court to conduct a permanency planning hearing within 12 months after a child was removed from his or her home, and once every 12 months after that.

- SB 1441 passed [RC 744: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1442 would require the family division of circuit court (family court) to conduct a permanency planning hearing within 12 months after a child was removed from his or her home, for a child who remained in foster care and for whom parental rights had not been terminated. The bill also would revise the time frame for the family court to hold a permanency planning hearing in abuse cases.

- SB 1442 passed [RC 745: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 1444 is part of a package which amends the Probate Code regarding foster children. Republicans contend that the foster package is needed to comply with Federal requirements.

- SB 1444 passed [RC 746: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 4458 (Rocca)

HB 4458 would permit alcoholic liquor sold by off-premise retailers to be sold at a price equal to or greater than the minimum retail selling price fixed by the Liquor Control Commission.

Support: Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers, Associated Food Dealers of Michigan, Michigan Retailers Association, Michigan Licensed Beverage Association, Michigan Grocers Association.

- HB 4458 was passed for the day.

THIRD READING

SB 735 (Allen)

SB 735 would make it easier for the operators of tourist attractions to guide visitors directly to their location. Currently, with MDOT approval, an operator may post a directional sign along the portion of a rural road outside the limits of a city, village, or township, but cannot post anything to help guide motorists once they have driven into the municipality. A person driving in unfamiliar territory can become lost. He or she might not be able to call for directions, or might not listen carefully when verbal directions are given. The bill would do a great deal to eliminate the trouble some drivers encounter when trying to find local tourist attractions, which could help boost economic activity.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.
- Allen 2 (S-2) was adopted.
- SB 735 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SB 925 (McManus)

SB 925 gives limited liability protection for prescribed burns that met a series of conditions. The bill would provide that a property owner would not be liable for damage or injury caused by the fire or smoke from a prescribed burn, and would not be liable for fire suppression costs incurred by the State or a local unit of government.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated.
- McManus 2 (S-2) was adopted.
- SB 925 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 5947 (Palmer)

HB 5970 (Newell)

HB 5947 and HB 5970 would provide that a rebate or discount to a consumer for specific health services would not violate a prohibition against giving or receiving a kickback or bribe, or receiving a rebate for referring an individual to another person for the furnishing of health care benefits.

House Bill 5947 would apply to a rebate or discount from a medical supply or device manufacturer, or from a company that licenses or distributes medical supplies or devices for a manufacturer to a consumer for his or her use of a medical supply or device manufactured, licensed, or distributed by that manufacturer or company.

- HB 5947 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

House Bill 5970 would apply to a drug manufacturer or a company that licenses or distributes the drugs of a manufacturer to a consumer for his or her use of a drug manufactured, licensed, or distributed by that manufacturer or company.

- HB 5970 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.

RESOLUTIONS

SR 279 (Van Woerkom)

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to enact the Specialty Crop Competitiveness Act.

- SB 279 was adopted [no RC].